

January 16, 2001

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U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket No. 98P-0151/CP1

To Whom It May Concern:

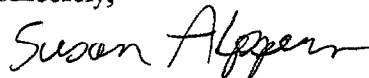
Please help us end the cruel downed animal trade. Since downed animals comprise such a small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship, I urge you to eradicate their horrendous and unnecessary pain and suffering.

Animals who are too sick or injured to stand should not even be allowed to enter the human 'food' chain. In addition, it poses an increased risk for bacterial contamination. There is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (bovine spongiform encephalopathy aka mad cow disease), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely. They are callously pushed and shoved with tractors or dragged with chains-inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Since industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling, removal of downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Sincerely,

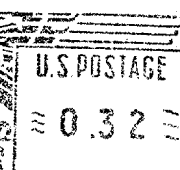


Susan Alpern
343 N.W. 87th Terrace
Plantation, FL 33324

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Johnson DR.
h, FL 33461



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